2·24 The Collector's Magazine

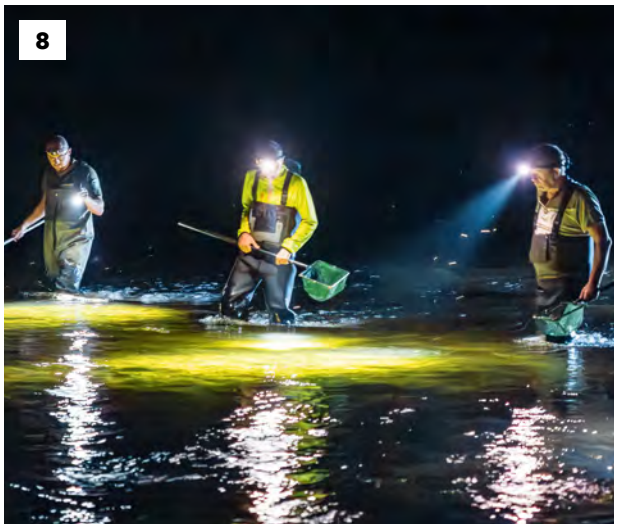
Focus on stamps

To compulsory school in Switzerland

Focus

The rarest fish

A piece of home



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Chief editors
Florence Herndl, Olga Hammerschmiedova

Art Director / visual concept
Kaspar Eigensatz

Editorial team
Nathalie Stöckli/Minestrone;
Sarah Hadorn/SDA/AWP;
Florence Herndl; Olga Hammerschmiedova

Layout
Kaspar Eigensatz, Natalie Fankhauser

Translation and proofreading
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Contact Center
Tel.: +41 848 66 55 44
Fax: +41 58 667 62 68
E-mail: stamps@swisspost.ch
Internet: swisspost.ch/stamps

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printed in switzerland

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Foto: Yosia Christen Cover image: a school pupil imitates the visual on the "150 years compulsory school" sheetlet (p. 12).

The art of visualization

A picture is worth a thousand words. That saying passed through my mind when I looked at the special stamp marking 150 years of compulsory school (p. 12). The vibrant design evoked memories of my own school days – the image came to life without a single word, and all of a sudden, there was the smell of freshly sharpened pencils and new schoolbooks. I heard the bell ringing for break and children hurtling around the school yard. All triggered by a single image. That's art. An art that I've always found fascinating in philately is how every new stamp manages to tell a story on a miniature canvas. This includes the story of Swiss Post, which celebrates its 175th anniversary this year. How do you go about visualizing such a period of time – from mail coaches to e-banking? Graphic design students took up this challenge in the competition for Swiss Post's commemorative stamp. In our interview (p. 4), the winners reveal how they illustrated their perspectives of Swiss Post.

Another art form that brings stories to life is theatre. At the Welttheater in Einsiedeln, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary, the village is in the spotlight (p. 22). Before I say anything else about the new stamp issues, it might be best to take a look at them for yourself. I hope you enjoy admiring them and maybe even enjoy some moments of silent amazement.

Stefan Bühler
Head of Stamps & Philately – Swiss Post

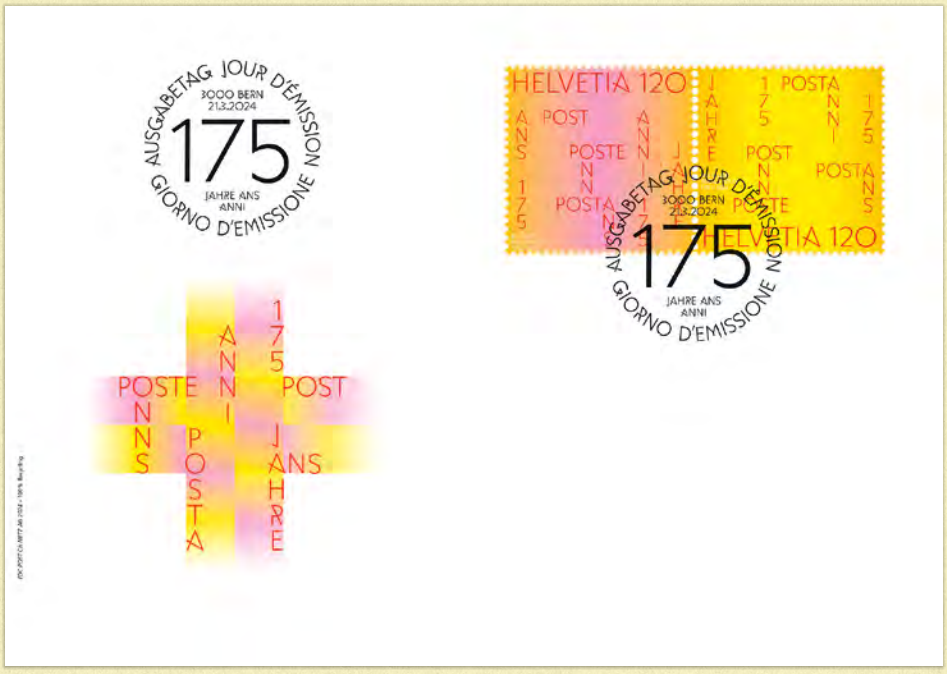
Sheet of 15 stamps

Swiss Post as a brand

What does Swiss Post stand for? A broad question that was addressed by Lucerne students of graphic design as part of a competition held 175 years after the company's foundation. Their answers packed into a small format – the commemorative stamp.

From coaches to e-mobility and from "little yellow books" to e-banking. Since it was founded in 1849, Swiss Post has always been dynamic, adapting to society's changing needs. But how does the general public see Swiss Post today? Young people, for example? This is precisely the question addressed by the commemorative stamp. Which is why Swiss Post held a competition open to students of graphic design in collaboration with the Lucerne School of Design, Film and Art. The prize was implementation of the best idea. "We made a conscious decision to partner with students, because we wanted to give young designers the opportunity to showcase themselves and their ideas," explains Corinne Lutz, Product Manager at Swiss Post. The two related stamp designs produced by the winners symbolize Swiss Post's unifying and connecting role and make for a fascinating sheet of stamps. The fresh colour combination of pinks and yellows stands in contrast to the traditional symbols.

Maximum card



Set on first-day cover C6

Important note

The anniversary stamps and additional products will be ready for delivery and available in branches from 21 March 2024. Please note that orders that contain other products from this issue will be sent in one delivery from the end of April. If you would like to receive the "175 years Swiss Post" products earlier, please order them separately. A small quantity surcharge of 9 francs will be charged for orders under 15 francs. Subscribers will receive the items along with the products from the second issue from 25 April 2024. Cancellations are subject to the same conditions that apply to this issue.

“To get started, we dug out my father’s stamp collection.”

Svenja Kolly (left) and Mia Gujer (right), from the Canton of Aargau, studied graphic design at Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts and together run the studio kollygujer.

Designing a stamp is something many people in their industry dream of, say Svenja Kolly and Mia Gujer, designers of the commemorative stamp. So despite their busy schedules, they took part in the competition and created a depiction of their view of Swiss Post. A discussion about how it was made.

What is special about designing a stamp?
Svenja: There are many parallels with designing posters. Even though a stamp is much smaller, it still needs to work on different levels – both as an overall image from a distance and in terms of its details.

How did you approach designing a stamp?
Mia: To get started, we dug out my father’s stamp collection. For help with our brainstorming, we collected stamps that particularly caught our eye. We then analysed the various ways in which Swiss Post presents itself, and we were drawn to two concepts in particular: connectedness and movement.

How did you go about bringing these concepts to life?
Svenja: For the concept of movement, we studied photos, including images of moving Postbuses with different levels of motion blurring, and thanks to these experiments, we came up with the idea of the colour gradient. We arranged the typography as a lattice in all four national languages – a symbol of Swiss Post’s unifying role.

What tools did you use?
Mia: Most of our work was digital, but there were also analogue aspects. For example, we initially used pen and paper to work out the arrangement of the lattice by hand, and we tested haptic elements such as the embossing by using printouts. These are things that are not easy to get a feel for on screen.

What have you learned from the project?
Svenja: I didn’t realize beforehand how much goes into the publication of a stamp. And it was only when we visited the print shop and saw the security measures in place there that I also fully realized that a stamp is a form of security – like money.
Mia: The visit to the print shop was a highlight for me, too. There’s no comparison between seeing the end result on the computer screen and actually holding the perforated stamp with its gloss finish in your hands.

Discover more stamp designs!
All competition entries are being showcased in a touring exhibition.
Find the location nearest you: swisspost.ch/stamps

Photo: Svenja Kolly and Mia Gujer

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 15 stamps
★ A522 111 / ⊙ A522 511 / *CHF 18.00*
The sheet includes 8 stamps with the “+” design and 7 stamps with the “P” design. The designs are not available individually.

Set
★ A522 150 / ⊙ A522 550 / *CHF 2.40*

Block of four
★ A522 160 / ⊙ A522 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Set on first-day cover C6
⊙ A522 580 / *CHF 3.30*

Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A522 600 / *CHF 4.20*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A522 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A522 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A522 640 / ⊙ A522 650 / *CHF 3.20*

Maximum card A6

⊙ A522 851 / *CHF 3.40*

Unstamped picture postcard A6

★ A522 911 / *CHF 1.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

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Validity Unlimited from 21.3.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour + embossed printing + gloss finish; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamps: 33×33 mm
Sheet: 162×162 mm
(3 rows of 4 stamps, 1 row of 3 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 13½:13¼

Design HSLU, Mia Gujer, Wettingen and Svenja Kolly, Ehrendingen

Font Movement by NM type

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Species diversity under threat

Our waters are diverse habitats for numerous animal and plant species. But biodiversity is on the decline: more than half of fish species are threatened with extinction.

Rhone, Rhine, Inn – some of the most important rivers in Europe have their source in Switzerland, which is why it is sometimes known as the reservoir of Europe. Rivers and standing bodies of water, including around 1,500 lakes, make up four percent of the country's total area. This habitat is home to a large number of animal and plant species. But for how much longer? According to the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), underwater fauna and flora are at above-average risk compared to other organisms, with one in five species either threatened with extinction or already extinct.

Fish in particular under threat

Fish are among the most affected animal species: over 58 percent are on the FOEN's red list – while nine are thought to be already extinct. Ole Seehausen from EawAG, the ETH Domain's aquatic research institute, sees three main reasons for this: "Hydroelectric power plants prevent fish in rivers from migrating," says the fish ecologist. "In addition, nutrient oversupply in recent decades, and now global warming, have made the circulation of water layers in lakes more difficult – and with it the supply of oxygen to deep water. River bank stabilization, meanwhile, leaves some species of fish species without a habitat at the water's edge."

Underwater world on a sheet

The two EUROPA stamps immerse themselves in two Swiss rivers and standing waters, which flow together symbolically to form a common habitat on the sheet of 16: one stamp shows the underwater world of Lake Thun, represented by the common Lake Thun Balchen, a species of whitefish found only in Lakes Thun and Brienz. It is seen swimming past stoneworts and freshwater mussels hiding in the sediment. The second stamp depicts two causes for concern, species that live in the Doubs: the endangered white-clawed crayfish and the Zingel asper. The latter is also known as the Rhone streber or Roi du Doubs, and it is the rarest fish in Switzerland. (More on this in the Focus article on pages 8–11.)

Set on first-day cover C6

Choose the most beautiful EUROPA stamp

PostEurop is holding an online vote again this year – make sure you take part! The vote will be open from 9 May to 9 September 2024. Full details can be found at posteurop.org/europa2024

Joint product
Treat yourself to the product created through multilateral cooperation between Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland. It will be featured and available in Focus on stamps 3/2024 on 25 July 2024.

With gloss varnish for water effect

Sheet of 16 stamps

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 16 stamps
★ A530 111 / ⊙ A530 511 / *CHF 19.20*
The sheet includes 2×8 stamps with the designs "Lake Thun: Balchen, freshwater mussels and stoneworts" and "Doubs: Zingel asper, white-clawed crayfish and common water moss". The designs are not available individually.

Set
★ A530 150 / ⊙ A530 550 / *CHF 2.40*

Block of four
★ A530 160 / ⊙ A530 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Set on first-day cover C6
⊙ A530 580 / *CHF 3.30*

Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A530 600 / *CHF 4.20*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A530 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A530 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A530 640 / ⊙ A530 650 / *CHF 3.20*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

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Printing Offset, 4-colour + Gloss finish;
Gutenberg AG, Schaan,
Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamps: 40×32.5 mm
Sheet: 190×162 mm
(4 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper,
with optical brightener,
matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 13½:13¼

Design Anne Seeger, Winterthur

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

The rarest fish in Switzerland

Many species of fish in Switzerland are seriously endangered. For the Zingel asper, the clock is at five minutes to twelve. Evolutionary ecologist Ole Seehausen explains why the fish deserves special protection and shows how it could still be saved through breeding.

Copy: Sarah Hadorn **Photos: Guillaume Perret/Jonas Steiner, association Doubs Vivant, Eawag**

In the summer of 2023, environmental associations, the Confederation and the cantons of Jura and Neuchâtel undertook a search for the last of the Zingel asper species in the river Doubs. Their goal was to catch and breed the fish.

Ole Seehausen,
Evolutionary Ecologist

Focus on stamps: One of the new EUROPA stamps depicts the Zingel asper. It is the rarest fish in Switzerland. Where does it live?

Ole Seehausen: In Switzerland, the Zingel asper is found only in the upper part of the Doubs, where its numbers have declined dramatically in recent years. At the last official count in 2021, just one fish was sighted.

What are the reasons for its disappearance?

The main problem must surely be the hydroelectric power plants, which cause strong fluctuations in water levels, regularly leaving the banks dry. But this is exactly where the insect larvae and other small animals that the Zingel asper feeds on live. Operation of the power plants also causes sediment deposits in the pebbles on the river bed, preventing the fish from reproducing, as it lays its eggs on the pebble bed. The asper lives in these kinds of pebble beds and is the only fish in the Rhone and the whole of Switzerland that exhibits this specialized manner of living.

Does the fish have any other special attributes?

Yes, it's a true master of the art of camouflage, which protects it from its predators. With its yellowish colouring and dark marbling, you would barely notice this relative of the perch on the colourful pebble banks. Above all, however, the Zingel asper has exacting requirements with regard to its habitat. For example, the water must not be warmer than 25 degrees, and it should have zones with different flow rates – because depending on the strength of the current, this is where other animals that the fish preys on live. Its exacting requirements make it a so-called umbrella species: if it survives, many other less sensitive species will survive with it. The Zingel asper therefore deserves special protection.

What is Switzerland doing to protect the fish?

Environmental associations, the Confederation and the cantons of Jura and Neuchâtel have already done a great deal: they have rewilded the confluence areas of a number of the Doubs' tributaries, restoring the natural Zingel asper's habitat. A weir bypass

channel was built in St. Ursanne, allowing the fish to once again migrate upstream. And the hydroelectric power plants have managed to reduce the fluctuations in water levels they cause. However, given the seriousness of the threat to the Zingel asper, these measures alone are not enough.

Is there still hope, despite the threats?

Yes, breeding. This is often the last alternative available when enhancement of the habitat comes too late. France, where the Zingel asper also lives and is also seriously endangered, has brought the fish back to the Drôme, a tributary of the Rhone in the south-east of the country. Because the asper was completely extinct there, they took animals from two other places in the Rhone basin and began breeding them. Over the years, around 35,000 fish were then released into the Drôme until the animals began to reproduce naturally. The population is now growing again.

Is breeding an option in Switzerland?

Yes, and efforts are being made to do so. In fact, the initial situation in the Doubs is more favourable than in the Drôme: a female Zingel asper was found and caught last summer. And there are probably still a few more fish. But even with just one fish from the Doubs crossed with a specimen from another population, important genetic material could be preserved: DNA, which contains its adaptation to the specific living conditions of the Doubs. An additional release of large numbers of farmed fish from France would in turn ensure genetic diversity. So there is definitely still hope of saving the Zingel asper in Switzerland.

“The Zingel asper has exacting requirements with regard to its habitat. If it survives, many other less sensitive species will survive with it.”

The Zingel asper is a true master of the art of camouflage: with its yellowish colouring and dark marbling, you would barely notice it on the river bed.

Image on left and above: In Switzerland, the Zingel asper is found only in the upper part of the Doubs.

Vibrancy: This sheet was printed with 6 special colours.

Sheetlet of 10 stamps

Switzerland rules the school

May or must? In Switzerland, school is both a right and an obligation: 150 years ago, despite a great deal of resistance to begin with, compulsory education found its way into the Federal Constitution.

Schooling was to last eight years and would be both compulsory and free of charge for everyone – these were the rules for the universal system of compulsory education introduced in Switzerland in 1874. Nowadays, mandatory schooling lasts for 11 years (including kindergarten), and this is now simply taken for granted in Switzerland. That wasn't always the case, with pushback coming from industry and agriculture, sectors that did not want to lose their workers, especially given that it was common practice for children to help out. Society has changed a great deal since then.

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

175 years working for the interests of teachers

LCH, the umbrella organization of Swiss teachers, advocates for the educational and professional interests of its approximately 55,000 members. It was formed in 1989 from the *Vereinigung des Schweizerischen Lehrervereins (SLV)* and the *Konferenz Schweizerischer Lehrerorganisationen (KOSLO)*. As the SLV was founded in 1849, the current umbrella organization is celebrating 175 years of Swiss teachers' associations.

LCH president Dagmar Rösler was born in Basel in 1971 and grew up in Grindel (SO)

Five questions for...

Dagmar Rösler, President of LCH, the umbrella organization of Swiss teachers.

Ms Rösler, the stamp shows a busy school playground – what did you do during breaks when you were at school?
At primary school, I used to spend 20 minutes running around and playing with the other kids. When you ask children what they like most about school, they'll often tell you breaks or PE. Which shows that exercise is more important than ever.

Because children are getting less exercise in general?
Exercise is no longer the natural part of everyday life it used to be. In the past, running around in the woods or walking to school was still commonplace. Today, there are pupils who spend a large part of their free time indoors.

What has changed since your school days?
Attendance times have increased in the last 30 to 40 years. In terms of methodology, school has moved away from the teacher standing in front of the classroom towards one-on-one teaching and more group and partner work. The composition of schools has also changed, as the pupils have become more culturally diverse. I would also note that children today are able to communicate their needs much more clearly and that they are more self-confident. And then there's social change: achieving a good work-life balance, individual lifestyles and changing values. All of these issues are brought into school.

What is the role of compulsory school in this respect?
That's a big question. On the one hand, it prepares pupils for their future working life. But there are also broad-ranging skills on the lesson plan, such as looking after one's own health, tolerance and respect. Schools also take on some responsibility for integration, encouraging individuality and diversity. Where else do so many different social classes, cultures and biographies come together? Along with maths, writing, reading and general knowledge, school teaches people how to live together in society.

What will the school of the future be like?
There are many visions for the future. But the question is, which of them can be implemented widely? The biggest change could be brought about by day school structures, with children and young people possibly spending more time at school. In terms of content, we have already seen major change – but the vessels and structure now also need to change. I don't believe that compulsory school needs to be revolutionized. There are some things that work very well. But we need to do away with a few old shibboleths.

Products

Stamps (self-adhesive)

Sheetlet of 10 stamps
★ A535 311 / ⊙ A535 351 / *CHF 12.00*

Single stamp
★ A535 150 / ⊙ A535 550 / *CHF 1.20*

Block of four
★ A535 160 / ⊙ A535 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A535 580 / *CHF 2.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A535 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Sheetlet on first-day cover C5
⊙ A535 590 / *CHF 13.20*

Unstamped covers
C6 (162×114 mm)
★ A535 700 / *CHF 0.90*
C5 (229×162 mm)
★ A535 701 / *CHF 1.20*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A535 640 / ⊙ A535 650 / *CHF 2.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

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Printing Offset, 6-colour;
Gutenberg AG, Schaan,
Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamp: 32.5×40 mm
Sheet: 210×115 mm
(2 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper,
with optical brightener,
self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²

Perforation 13½:13½

Design Nina Wehrle and
Evelyne Laube, Lucerne

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

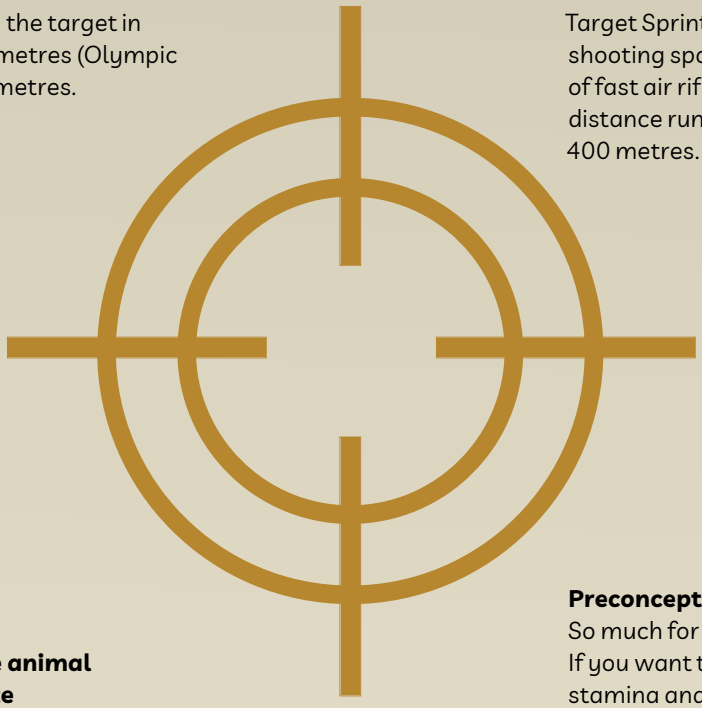
Photo: LCH/Philipp Baer

Right on target

Eight facts about Swiss shooting sport in our sights: why it takes fitness to stand still, and where there's still an animal trophy to be seen.

Lightning fast
905 metres per second – or 3,258 kilometres per hour – is the muzzle velocity (the speed of the projectile as it leaves the barrel) of the Stgw 90 assault rifle.

Pinpoint accuracy
The diameter of the 10 on the target in air rifle shooting over 10 metres (Olympic discipline) is just 0.5 millimetres.



Latest discipline: Target Sprint
Target Sprint is the latest discipline in shooting sport. It is a combination of fast air rifle shooting and a middle distance running competition over 400 metres.

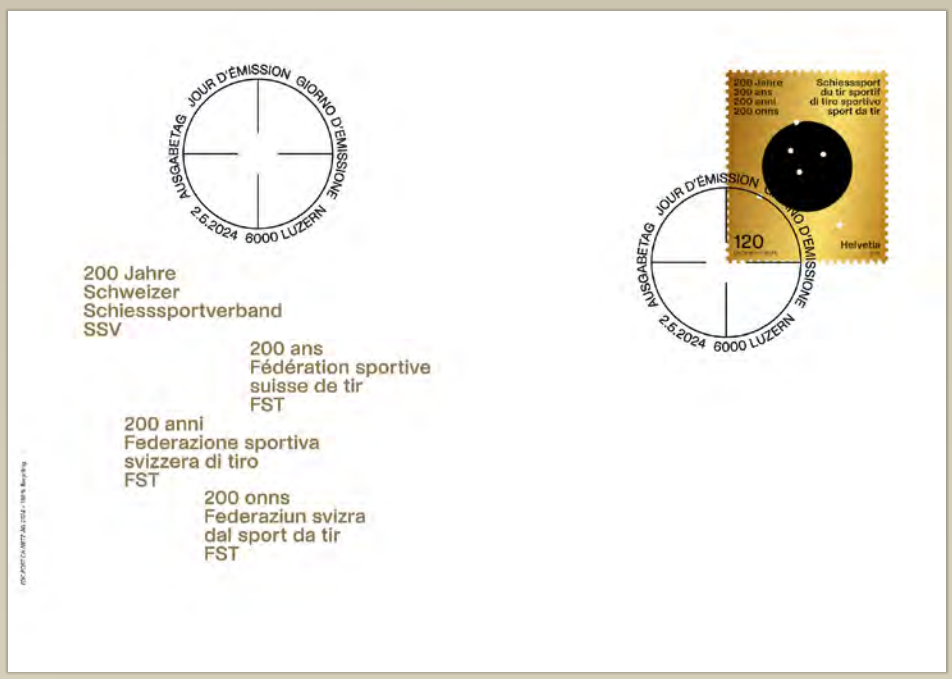
First female Swiss Olympic champion
At the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Nina Christen took a gold and bronze medal (air rifle and rifle three positions). A historic victory: her win made the then 27-year-old from Nidwalden the first female Swiss Olympic champion in shooting. Before that, Switzerland's last Olympic victory was claimed by Emil Grünig in 1948.

Association matter: 200 years
The Swiss Shooting Sport Federation (SSV) is the umbrella organization for Swiss sports shooters. With around 130,000 members, it is the fifth largest sporting association in Switzerland. Founded in 1824, the SSV is celebrating its bicentenary this year.

Preconception thrown to the wind
So much for not having to be fit to do shooting! If you want to compete at the top level, you need stamina and strength. To move as little as possible – in other words, to hold still. Something you can only do if you're fit, because your pulse is transferred directly to the sports equipment.

A hairy affair: live animal awarded as a prize
In 1937, the Swiss marksmen returned from the World Championships in Finland with a live animal awarded as a prize for taking first place in the army rifle competition: a bear cub. He was given the name AMEKO, made up of the first letters of the winners' names, and lived at Zurich Zoo until 1942. His hide is still on display in the Swiss Shooting Museum in Bern.

A man's domain?
The Swiss national squad consists of 16 women and 9 men. There are currently 22 women and 10 men training in the junior squad at the regional performance centers.



Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Stamp on a special card with original bullet holes created by Olympic champion

The Swiss Shooting Sport Federation stamp is based on the traditional A-type target. At the firing range, Olympic champion Nina Christen used the stamp as a target, shooting through 200 copies. The stamps were each affixed to a numbered special card signed by Nina Christen herself. The cards are available to order from 9 a.m. on 2 May 2024 at postshop.ch/ssv-fst or from your Swiss Post branch. Sales price of CHF 49.00. The exciting video with all the action can be found at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Special card

Don't miss out: limited issue of 200 unique items

With die-cut holes and metallic gold colour

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 20 stamps
★ A531 111 / ⊙ A531 511 / *CHF 24.00*

Single stamp
★ A531 150 / ⊙ A531 550 / *CHF 1.20*

Block of four
★ A531 160 / ⊙ A531 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A531 580 / *CHF 2.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A531 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A531 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A531 640 / ⊙ A531 650 / *CHF 2.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

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Gutenberg AG, Schaan,
Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamp: 28×33 mm
Sheet: 140×194 mm
(5 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper,
with optical brightener,
matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 11¾:11¾

Design Erich Brechbühl, Lucerne

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

A piece of home

Where is the fifth Switzerland? All over the world. The concept refers to all Swiss nationals living abroad, the people to whom the new Pro Patria stamps are dedicated.

More than 800,000 Swiss nationals live abroad – equivalent to around 11 percent of all people with Swiss citizenship. By way of comparison: all together, they would constitute the fourth largest canton in terms of population, which is why the community is sometimes called the 27th canton. Or indeed the fifth Switzerland – along with German-, French-, Italian- and Romansh-speaking Switzerland. A look at the statistics shows that a little over a quarter of all Swiss people abroad live in France, making the neighbouring country the most popular adopted homeland, followed by Germany and the United States.

Since 1916, SwissCommunity, the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA), has been committed to maintaining the connection between Switzerland and its citizens in other countries by providing up-to-date information, advice on legal issues and more. The foundation also represents the interests of the community and is recognized by the authorities as an official mouthpiece.

Holiday camp brainstorming

The OSA organizes holiday camps in Switzerland for young Swiss citizens between the ages of 15 and 18 who are resident abroad. Among the items on last summer's agenda was the creation of the new Pro Patria stamps. 124 people from 33 different countries participating in the camps gave some thought to questions about Switzerland and Swiss Post, and then compiled and sketched out ideas for stamp designs. The upshot was a concept that served as input for the design of this year's Pro Patria stamps. The goal? To produce two stamps representing the fifth Switzerland.

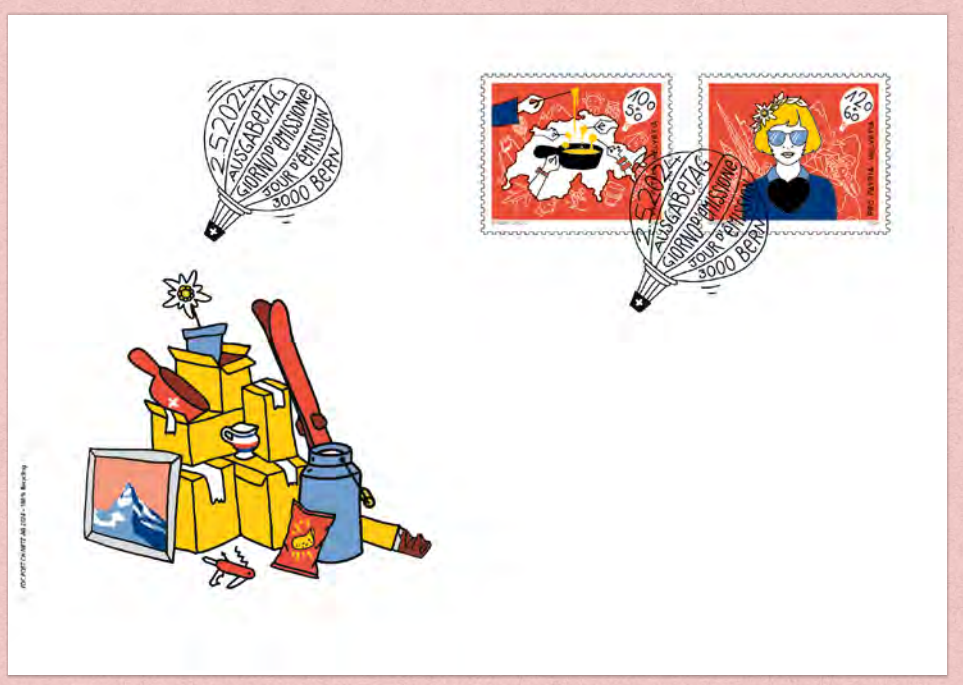
The young people set out their insights and thoughts on mood boards and in videos. When asked what she generally associates with Swiss Post, a participant from Thailand replied: "For me, Swiss Post always played a big role at Christmastime, when we received a Christmas hamper with beautiful stamps on it. I find it very special to be getting my own stamps now." The young people also gave some thought to the question of what Switzerland means to them and made their first rough sketches with typical motifs including mountains, cows and chocolate. They also tried out other graphic elements such as style, choice of colour and font. Once the first drafts were finished, a group was also given the opportunity to have their say and provide feedback. "I find them really pretty, and I think they symbolize a great deal. They include Swiss elements that anyone can recognize," says a participant from Chile in the video.

The video about brainstorming at youth camps.

Sheetlet of 10 stamps each

Designer and Swiss citizen resident abroad

Sandra Liscio grew up in Lugano. She moved to London eight years ago for a three-month internship at a creative agency – and stayed. Today, she works as a design director in the film and entertainment industry and visits Switzerland at least twice a year. "A part of my heart is always in Switzerland. I think that many Swiss people abroad can relate to this bittersweet homesickness. So it was important to me to illustrate this feeling, which connects us all, in the stamps," says the stamp designer.



Set on first-day cover C6

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Stamp booklet

Heart-warming special effect

The heart and the caquelon in the designs were overprinted with black thermal ink. Warming it up with your finger reveals the Switzerland underneath.

Photo: Sandra Liscio

Products

Stamps

Sheetlet of 10 stamps each
1.00+0.50 Cultural ties
★ A529 111 / ⊙ A529 511 / *CHF 15.00*
1.20+0.60 Sense of belonging
★ A529 112 / ⊙ A529 512 / *CHF 18.00*

Set
★ A529 150 / ⊙ A529 550 / *CHF 3.30*

Block of four
★ A529 160 / ⊙ A529 560 / *CHF 13.20*

Covers

Set on first-day cover C6
⊙ A529 580 / *CHF 4.20*

Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A529 600 / *CHF 5.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A529 630 / *CHF 15.00*

Sheetlet on first-day cover C5 "Cultural ties"
⊙ A529 591 / *CHF 16.20*

Sheetlet on first-day cover C5 "Sense of belonging"
⊙ A529 592 / *CHF 19.20*

Unstamped covers
C6 (162×114 mm)
★ A529 700 / *CHF 0.90*
C5 (229×162 mm)
★ A529 701 / *CHF 1.20*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A529 640 / ⊙ A529 650 / *CHF 4.10*

Stamp booklet

4 stamps at CHF 1.00+0.50 with "Cultural ties" design and 6 stamps at CHF 1.20+0.60 with "Sense of belonging" design ★ A529 300 / ⊙ A529 800 / *CHF 16.80*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour + thermal ink; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Formats Stamps: 33×28 mm
Sheet: 115×192 mm
(5 rows of 2 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 13¼:13¼

Design Sandra Liscio, London

175 years Swiss Post

Transformation

Swiss Post is celebrating its 175th anniversary. We regularly publish photos from the archive as a reminder of how Swiss Post delivered letters and parcels in the past. This photo is a snapshot of the Sihlpost Zurich during the run-up to Christmas in 1972.

Images: ETH library Zurich, photo archives, Tectonic Arena Sardona visitor center

Philately universe

Did you know?

Top three stamp designs

We asked: what do you prefer seeing on stamps?

1st place: natural beauty and the splendour of plants
Most of you adore the natural wonders of the world. Flowers, forests and rivers – everything nature has to offer seems particularly popular on stamps.

2nd place: designs from the animal kingdom
Animals came in second place. Whether it's fluffy kittens, majestic eagles or exotic reptiles – animals on stamps are a delight for collectors.

3rd place: historic events and anniversaries vs the magic of Christmas
In third place, the love of stamps was divided into two camps: stamp collectors delight in reminiscing about historical events and commemorations – all the things that fill history books. Others are captivated by Christmassy designs.

Source: Quantitative study carried out by Ipsos SA for Post CH Network Ltd in 2022

Tribute

A “Penny Black” in Bern

Bern’s Museum of Communication has an impressive stamp collection. It even includes some examples of the Penny Black, the very first stamp in postal history, issued in the UK in 1840. It’s not a particularly rare stamp, as over 68 million were printed. However, it can still achieve very high prices in pristine condition.

Thank you

100 free stamps

The visitor center at the Tectonic Arena Sardona in Glarus came up with a wonderful idea: each visitor received a Tectonic Arena Sardona stamp (which also featured on the cover of “Focus on stamps 4/2023”) and a postcard as a small gift. The 100 gift sets were much sought-after.

“Giving away the stamp with a postcard is a great way of making visitors aware of this natural attraction and providing information about the Tectonic Arena Sardona. If the postcard is sent using the stamp, then even more people will find out about our UNESCO natural world heritage site,” explains Monica Marti, Co-Head of the Naturzentrum Glarnerland and UNESCO Sardona visitor center in Glarus. She enthuses: “There’s been a very positive response. Some visitors came especially for the stamp. Others were delighted with the unexpected gift and thought sending someone a special greeting was a wonderful idea. Some people just wanted to keep the stamp for themselves.”

Ms Marti added that everyone was delighted with the stamp and its special format – we would like to thank you all for the compliment!

Dialogue

Readers’ letters

“For quite a few years now, I’ve been looking in ‘Focus on stamps’ for suitable stamps to create a new year’s message for my friends – and I always find one. […] I’ll be sending them a new year’s message again this year, and I wish you a wonderful and successful new year, too. Long may ‘Focus on stamps’ continue providing inspiration for my new year’s greetings.”
Christian Reufer, Emmenbrücke (LU)

Focus on stamps editorial team:
We’re delighted to hear you found what you were looking for again this year. There are lots of exciting themes in store for you this year, and many highlights to look forward to in our forthcoming issues!

Share your philatelic discoveries with us, or simply tell us about your reactions as you read the magazine.

redaktion.lupe@post.ch

Die Schweizerische Post
Kommunikation K23
Die Lupe
Wankdorfallee 4
3030 Bern

We want to know!
Which article in this Focus on stamps did you like best?
Tell us your views
redaktion.lupe@post.ch

Airmail takes off

On 31 August 2024, we will see a reenactment of an aerophilatelic event that took place exactly 100 years ago: a courier flight from La Caquerelle (JU) to Lausanne.

At the beginning of the 20th century, a novelty rolled out onto the runway: aeroplanes were set to fundamentally change the transport of goods and people, as well as postal traffic. This marked the beginning of a new chapter for aerophilately – a craze for collecting covers such as airmail stamps or airmail vignettes spread around the globe.

From the Jura to the whole world

As a result, there was a great deal of interest in being there for the first courier flight from La Caquerelle in the Jura to Lausanne in the summer of 1924. According to a report at the time in the regional newspaper, an estimated 15,000 curious people flocked to La Caquerelle. A cargo of more than 20,000 letters and postcards was assembled for the special flight. However: the aircraft, a Rumpler CH 79, was unable to land at its destination for safety reasons. The correspondence was therefore taken by car to Delémont, where the airmail took off at 4 p.m., first flying over La Caquerelle and finally landing in Lausanne. From there, the letters and postcards went on to their specified addresses.

"People who wanted to keep the valuable covers for themselves sent mail to themselves. Others sent greetings to their friends abroad. Theoretically, the consignments could be anywhere in the world – that's the fascinating thing about it," explains Roland Herzog, a member of the Swiss Association of Aerophilatelists. The special flight in 1924 was brought to the attention of the stamp dealer by collector Jean-Luc Meusy. Working with a committee, they decided to get the ball rolling on an anniversary event: "Exactly 100 years later, we would like the commemorative flight to rekindle the special philatelic moment of that time." The Delémont philately society, which organized the first flight, will also be on board for the second time.

Special cancellation

Taken a close look yet?

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Centenary of the special flight – with a special branch

The courier flight to Lausanne will be reenacted on 31 August 2024 with a Fieseler Storch aircraft. From La Caquerelle (Les Rangiers), as was planned in 1924, where the anniversary event will take place.
A special branch with a cancellation service will be provided on-site. The special branch will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Information about the special cancellation can be found in PhilaNews no. 8/2024, and further details about the event are available at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Sheetlet of 10 stamps

Find the flaw

Collectors have discovered that some of the vignettes for the 1924 special flight are so-called varieties – i.e. they have flaws and discrepancies of various kinds. These are rare and therefore in demand. Can you find the difference between the two blue vignettes in the middle of the cover? Answer in the caption.

One instead of two: on the vignette affixed on the right in the middle of the cover for the special flight of 31 August 1924, the second aircraft is missing.

Products

Stamps

Sheetlet of 10 stamps
★ A533 311 / ⊙ A533 351 / *CHF 12.00*

Single stamp
★ A533 150 / ⊙ A533 550 / *CHF 1.20*

Block of four
★ A533 160 / ⊙ A533 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A533 580 / *CHF 2.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A533 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Unstamped covers
C6 (162×114 mm)
★ A533 700 / *CHF 0.90*
C5 (229×162 mm)
★ A533 701 / *CHF 1.20*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A533 640 / ⊙ A533 650 / *CHF 2.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024
to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024
to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 5-colour;
Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Formats Stamp: 28×33 mm
Sheetlet: 192×115 mm
(2 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper,
with optical brightener,
matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 14 : 13¾

Design Capucine Matti, Bienne

Photo: Club – philatélique DELÉMONT

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Spotlight on

100 years of village theatre performances: this summer, Einsiedeln celebrates the anniversary edition of its World Theatre, with the people of the monastery village themselves both on stage and behind the scenes.

A **character** from the production by Tim Krohn and Beat Fäh (2013). The play focused on interventions in creation, the pursuit of perfection and the lust for happiness and greatness. The characters represent genetically manipulated figures.

Under a starry sky: one hundred years after its first season, the **open-air theatre** will be staged for the 17th time in 2024.

The **two ravens** symbolize the Einsiedeln coat of arms.

The World Theatre is based on a play by the Spanish philosopher Calderón. It addresses issues of human life and its ascribed roles – for example, that of a **king**. Since 2000, the plays have been rewritten to deal not only with Calderón, but also with current issues.

Actors: As in the World Theatre, the people of Einsiedeln also play the leading role on the stamp.

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Limited issue of 1,500 items

Competition
With a bit of luck, you could win 5 × 2 admission tickets, 1st category, worth CHF 135.00 each. Enter by 26.5.2024 at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Einsiedeln's theatre community

There are 500 adults and children from Einsiedeln and the surrounding area dedicated to the World Theatre, both on stage and behind the scenes. A collective effort by young and old, long-time residents and asylum seekers, school students and academics, entire families and people with disabilities. The preparations take almost a year. "We go so far as to give up our holidays so that we can play our part," says community advisor Markus Kälin. Some have been involved for decades – singing in the choir, taking on leading roles, making props or sewing clothes. Kälin's advice: "The best thing you can do if you move to Einsiedeln is to be part of the World Theatre – there couldn't be a better way to get to know the village and its people."

"Spotlight on" will be heard at least 35 times over the season – that's how many performances are planned for 2024.

The audience: The Einsiedeln World Theater company expects an audience of more than 55,000 people.

Maximum card A6 also available as a picture postcard

Einsiedeln Abbey will be turned into the venue from 11 June to 7 September 2024.

Special cover C5

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 5 stamps
★ A532 111 / ⊙ A532 511 / *CHF 5.00*

Single stamp
★ A532 150 / ⊙ A532 550 / *CHF 1.00*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A532 580 / *CHF 1.90*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A532 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A532 640 / ⊙ A532 650 / *CHF 1.80*

Maximum card A6

⊙ A532 851 / *CHF 2.00*

Picture postcard A6

★ A532 911 / *CHF 1.00*

Special cover C5

⊙ A532 990 / *CHF 16.90*
This item is not included in your subscription.

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamp: 38.5×37 mm
Sheet: 134×205 mm (5 rows of 1 stamp)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 11¾:11¾

Design Samuel Jordi, Winterthur

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Scan the stamp with the Post-App!

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Agriculture goes smart

In the middle of the 20th century, tractors gradually replaced the draught animals predominantly used in agriculture. 100 years later, will robots storm the fields?

From horses to steam tractors and from engine technology to smart farming: in recent years, more and more digital elements have been installed in agricultural machines. Just like in the tractor on the stamp, which is working the green stretch of land with millimetre precision thanks to GPS-based tracking. "This precise alignment while driving means that the work gets done efficiently and with less fuel consumption," explains Roman Engeler, Director of the Swiss Agricultural Technology Association. It also means that fertilizers and pesticides could be applied more precisely. For example, with cameras using artificial intelligence cameras recognizing weeds, pests or fungal infestations so that protective agents are applied only where needed. Although the currently available possibilities tend to be used selectively rather than across the board, Engeler is confident: "Agricultural technology will continue to develop, particularly in terms of digitization and sensor-based systems – from devices operating autonomously to robots."

100 years Swiss Agricultural Technology

The Swiss Agricultural Technology Association was founded in 1924. It represents the interests of its approximately 18,000 members in all matters relating to agricultural technology and offers services including basic and advanced training opportunities.

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 20 stamps
★ A536 111 / ⊙ A536 511 / *CHF 24.00*

Single stamp
★ A536 150 / ⊙ A536 550 / *CHF 1.20*

Block of four
★ A536 160 / ⊙ A536 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A536 580 / *CHF 2.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A536 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A536 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A536 640 / ⊙ A536 650 / *CHF 2.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 5-colour; Cartor Security Printers, Meaucé-La Loupe, France

Formats Stamps: 28×33 mm
Sheet: 190×140 mm
(5 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation 13½:13¼

Design Kilian Suter, Küssnacht am Rigi

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Special stamp **Olympic Summer Games Paris 2024**

Sheetlet of 10 stamps

Neck-and-neck race

This summer, the 33rd Olympic Summer Games take place in Paris. For the first time in history, an equal number of women and men will compete.

The Summer Olympics will be held in Paris from 26 July to 11 August 2024. This is the third time the French capital has hosted the event. The first time was in 1900, which was also the first time female athletes were permitted, with 22 women competing in the disciplines of tennis, golf and sailing. The second time, in 1924, the proportion of female athletes was around four percent. Today, around 100 years later, women are dead even for the first time in terms of participation rates. Swiss Olympic is expecting 120 athletes to represent Switzerland in Paris. It remains to be seen whether this will include B-boys and B-girls competing in the breakdance events, which are part of the Olympics for the first time.

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Products

Stamps (self-adhesive)

Sheetlet of 10 stamps
★ A534 311 / ⊙ A534 351 / *CHF 12.00*

Single stamp
★ A534 150 / ⊙ A534 550 / *CHF 1.20*

Block of four
★ A534 160 / ⊙ A534 560 / *CHF 4.80*

Covers

Single stamp on first-day cover C6
⊙ A534 580 / *CHF 2.10*

Block of four on first-day cover C6
⊙ A534 630 / *CHF 5.70*

Sheetlet on first-day cover C5
⊙ A534 590 / *CHF 13.20*

Unstamped covers
C6 (162×114 mm)
★ A534 700 / *CHF 0.90*
C5 (229×162 mm)
★ A534 701 / *CHF 1.20*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A534 640 / ⊙ A534 650 / *CHF 2.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024
to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024
to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour;
Gutenberg AG, Schaan,
Principality of Liechtenstein

Formats Stamp: 33×28 mm
Sheet: 210×115 mm
(2 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper,
with optical brightener,
self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²

Perforation 13¼:13½

Design Evgeniya Hitz, Zurich

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Set on first-day cover C6

Sunny greetings

Whether for franking a holiday postcard or for an invitation to a barbecue – these sun-kissed designs radiate pure summer vibes.

What do you associate with summer? That's what Swiss Post asked its employees as part of an internal survey. The most frequently cited answers are reflected in the new summer designs – swimming and barbecuing. On the 120 stamp, cooling down is the order of the day: just dangling in the water with a refreshing drink in your hand. Meanwhile, on the 100 stamp, the delicious food on the barbecue is already sizzling. Do you feel it yet? Pure summer vibes…

Give your holiday postcards a touch of summer!

Products

Stamps (self-adhesive)

Sheet of 10 of each stamp
1.00 Barbecue with friends
★ A537 361 / ⊙ A537 381 / *CHF 10.00*
1.20 Water relaxation
★ A537 362 / ⊙ A537 382 / *CHF 12.00*

Set
★ A537 150 / ⊙ A537 550 / *CHF 2.20*

Set of blocks of four
★ A537 160 / ⊙ A537 560 / *CHF 8.80*

Covers

Set on first-day cover C6
⊙ A537 580 / *CHF 3.10*

Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A537 600 / *CHF 4.00*

Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)
⊙ A537 630 / *CHF 10.60*

Unstamped cover C6
★ A537 700 / *CHF 0.90*

Folder/collection sheet A5

★ A537 640 / ⊙ A537 650 / *CHF 3.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Formats Stamps: 33×28 mm
Business sheet: 82×198 mm (open), 82×99 mm (folded)
(5 rows of 2 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²

Perforation Serpentine cut (4 sides)

Design Raphael Santschi, Bern

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

American cat speaks Swiss German

The world's laziest and hungriest cat stars in a new hilarious feature film. In Switzerland, the film will be screened in Swiss German.

No major US production has been dubbed into Swiss German for over 20 years. The last films were "Stuart Little" (2000) and "Stuart Little 2" (2002).

The world's most famous cat is coming to the big screen in spring 2024, and he'll be speaking Swiss German. The beginning of the film goes back in time to introduce us to Garfield as a cute baby who was adopted by Jon. His voice is dubbed by Schaffhausen cabaret artist Gabriel Vetter, who has recently become a regular presenter on "Sendung des Monats", SRF's new evening show. One of Switzerland's best-known satirists and actors, Mike Müller, lends his distinctive voice to the scruffy street cat Vic, Garfield's long-lost father.

Special sheet of 3 stamps each

THE GARFIELD MOVIE

EXCLUSIVELY IN CINEMAS

Cinema release in German-speaking Switzerland:
23 May 2024
Western Switzerland:
17 July 2024 (in French)
Ticino:
23 May 2024 (in Italian)

Distributed by Sony Pictures
www.garfield-film.ch

Why not join in?
With a little luck, you could win a private film screening or cinema tickets. Further information at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Products

Stamps

Sheet of 10 stamps each
1.20 Baby Garfield
★ A558 361 / CHF 12.00
1.20 Garfield
★ A558 362 / CHF 12.00

Special sheet of 6 stamps
★ A558 411 / CHF 7.20

These products are not supplied with the subscription.

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Sales
Philately: from 25.4.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last
Branches: from 2.5.2024 to 30.6.2025 or while stocks last

Validity Unlimited from 2.5.2024

Printing Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Formats
Stamps: Baby Garfield 28×33 mm, Garfield 33×28 mm
Sheet: 100×228 mm (open), 100×114 mm (folded) (5 rows of 2 stamps)

Paper White stamp paper, with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²

Perforation Serpentine cut (4 sides)

Design ©CTMG., Zurich

Important note

The "Garfield" special stamps are not part of the official stamp issuing programme and are not included in subscriptions. They will be sent along with Issue 2 from 25 April 2024. Available for order at postshop.ch or in all branches from 2 May 2024. The special sheet is also available online, via order form or in the six branches with stamp counters.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Image: AI

Coming soon!
24 April 2024

Crypto stamp

Marmi discovers Switzerland

After Walter and his pack, the cute and cuddly theme continues. Let me introduce myself. I'm Marmi the marmot, and I'm still enjoying my hibernation. But soon I'll wake up to wreak all sorts of havoc.

I am Marmi

Visit me from 1 April 2024 at swisspost.ch/crypto-stamp and join me on my daily adventures.

To avoid missing out on any news about Swiss Crypto Stamps in future, sign up for our newsletter at swisspost.ch/crypto-stamp.

Stamp set for children

For those with a sweet tooth

A sweet taster of the stamp set for children with cool arts and craft ideas and a melt-in-the-mouth recipe.

Collection fever alert: the current stamp set for children comes with six new designs. They feature tractors, create summer vibes and explore Switzerland's underwater world. Another stamp illustrates why every child in Switzerland has to – sorry, has the opportunity to – go to school: mandatory education was introduced 150 years ago. The puzzle section will keep children's minds active, while the recipe page contains a delicious refreshing treat. Have fun trying it out!

Extract from the current stamp set for children

Product

Stamp set for children
German / ★ A538 901 / *CHF 12.00*
French / ★ A538 902 / *CHF 12.00*
Italian / ★ A538 903 / *CHF 12.00*

Block of four
★ A456 160 / ⊙ A456 560 / *CHF 4.40*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

Technical information

Length: 20 pages

Content: Six stamps valid for postage, one cancelled stamp, three postcards to colour in

Themes: Stamp collecting, puzzles, writing, comics, postal knowledge, arts and crafts, recipe

Face values included: CHF 7.50

Publication: Four times a year

Suitable for: Children between the ages of seven and ten

Subscription:
swisspost.ch/stamp-subscriptions
or +41 848 66 55 44

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Event calendar

See you soon?

2 May

Issue date 2/2024

25 July

Publication date of **Focus on stamps 3/2024**

31 August

La Caquerelle special flight in La Caquerelle (JU), CH
Visit our sales stand with cancellation service

5 September

Issue date 3/2024

26 September

Publication date of **Focus on stamps 4/2024**

24 to 26 October

International Stamp Fair in Ulm (DE)
Visit our sales stand with cancellation service

7 November

Issue date 4/2024

7 to 9 November

77th Salon philatélique d'Automne in Paris (FR)
Visit our sales stand with cancellation service

The right to make updates and changes is reserved. The latest version can always be found at swisspost.ch/collecting-stamps.

Issuing programme

Anticipation is the greatest feeling

Issue date: 5 September 2024
Featured in: Focus on stamps 3/2024

2.50	**Swiss inventions – Garlic press**
4.40	**Animal imagery**
1.00	Owl
1.00	Dragonfly
1.20	Ladybird
1.20	Squirrel
6.60	**Swiss attractions**
1.00	Geneva
1.20	Landwasser Viaduct
1.90	Rigi
2.50	Zermatt
1.20	**Swiss Post's commitment to art**
2.20	**Overprint**
1.00	Brig
1.20	Lucerne
1.20	**150 years General Henri Guisan**
1.90	**150 years UPU (Universal Postal Union)**

Subject to change.
As at: February 2024

Temporary move

The philately location for Western Switzerland has moved

The stamp counter for Western Switzerland, previously located in the Saint-François Swiss Post branch in Lausanne, has moved. In January 2024, extensive renovation work began on the famous Hôtel des Postes on Lausanne's main square and will last for several years before reopening. The stamp counter and the philately display have been moved to the Lausanne 1 Dépôt branch (next to the railway station) for the duration of the works and are already in operation. As the move is temporary, there will be no new philatelic postmark for this location. **Lausanne 1 Dépôt Swiss Post branch – Avenue de la Gare 43B, 1003 Lausanne**

Illustration: iStock

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2023 year set with
first-day covers (FDC)

Products

Issue set with single stamps 2/2024
The single stamps and sets in the 2/2024 issue are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping.
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Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 2/2024
The first-day covers with single stamps and sets in the 2/2024 issue are combined in one free cover.
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2023 year book
Representing a valuable record of our times, the year book presents all Swiss stamps and first-day cancellations for 2023, along with an exclusive black print, on over 100 pages in four languages (de/fr/it/en).
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2023 year set
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★ A481 725 / *CHF 35.00*

Swiss stamp catalogue
Switzerland 2024, German/French
★ A481 787 / *CHF 27.00*

Key
★ mint / ⊙ cancelled

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2023 year book

Issue set 2/2024

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